AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and the listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (**Currently Amended**) An electronic system comprising

a system to be monitored having a plurality of output signals,

a plurality of fault-monitoring devices ~~systems~~ each of which is adapted to have a respective input from the system to be monitored and an output for outputting ~~output~~ a fault signal when ~~an input~~ a respective input indicates that the ~~electronic~~ system to be monitored is in a fault condition ~~associated with the fault-monitoring system~~, wherein:

the fault-monitoring devices ~~systems~~ are arranged in a cascade fashion and the electronic system is adapted to cause the first fault monitoring device of the cascade to detect a fault and to output a fault signal such that a fault signal output from one fault-monitoring device ~~system~~ is provided as an input to a subsequent fault-monitoring device ~~system~~ in the cascade of fault-monitoring devices ~~systems~~ to simulate a fault condition associated with the subsequent fault-monitoring device ~~system~~, and

the output of a final fault-monitoring device in the cascade is used as an indicator of a fault in one of the fault-monitoring devices.

2. (**Cancelled**)

3. (**Previously Presented**) An electronic system according to claim 1, the electronic system further being arranged to:

place the electronic system into a first fault condition and monitor for a generation of a first fault signal from a first fault-monitoring device,

on the generation of a first fault signal from the fault-monitoring device after placing the electronic system into a first fault condition, to input the first fault signal to the second fault-monitoring device, and

in response to an output from a final fault-monitoring device to store a record to this effect in non-volatile memory.

4. (**Previously Presented**) An electronic system according to claim 3 wherein, on subsequent reversion of the electronic system to a non-fault condition, the electronic system is arranged to check whether the non-volatile memory includes a record and when the non-volatile memory does not include a record on a subsequent reversion, generate an alarm signal.

5. (**Currently Amended**) An electronic system according to claim 1 wherein a first fault-monitoring device ~~system~~ is adapted to output a fault signal when the electronic system is placed into a switched-off condition.

6. (**Currently Amended**) An electronic system according to claim 5 wherein the first fault-monitoring device ~~system~~ is a watch-dog system.

7. (**Original**) An electronic system according to claim 5 wherein the electronic system is associated with a vehicle and the electronic system is placed into a switched-off condition by turning an ignition key.

8. (**Currently Amended**) An electronic system according to claim 5 wherein a second fault-monitoring device ~~system~~ has as an input the fault signal from the first fault-monitoring device ~~system~~, the second fault-monitoring system being adapted to output a fault signal when the electronic system experiences an under- or over-voltage condition.

9. (**Currently Amended**) An electronic system according to claim 1 further comprising storing a record of a fault signal output by any of the fault-monitoring devices ~~systems~~ to enable identification of a defective fault-monitoring device ~~system~~.

10. (**Currently Amended**) A self-test method for an electronic system comprising

a system to be monitored having a plurality of output signals,

a plurality of fault-monitoring devices ~~systems~~ each of which is adapted to have a respective input from the system to be monitored and an output for outputting ~~output~~ a fault signal when ~~an input~~ a respective input indicates that the ~~electronic~~ system to be monitored is in a fault condition ~~associated with the fault-monitoring system~~, the fault-monitoring devices ~~systems~~ being arranged in a cascade fashion and the electronic system is adapted to cause the

first fault monitoring device of the cascade to detect a fault and to output a fault signal such that a fault signal output from one fault-monitoring device ~~system~~ is provided as an input to a subsequent fault-monitoring device ~~system~~ in the cascade of fault-monitoring devices ~~systems~~, the method comprising:

inputting the fault signal from one fault-monitoring device ~~system~~ to a subsequent fault-monitoring device ~~system~~ to simulate a fault condition associated with the subsequent fault-monitoring device ~~system~~, wherein

the output of a final fault-monitoring device in the cascade is used as an indicator of a fault in one of the fault-monitoring devices.

11. **(Cancelled)**

12. **(Previously Presented)** A self-test method according to claim 10, further comprising:

placing the electronic system into a first fault condition and monitoring for a generation of a first fault signal from a first fault-monitoring device,

on the generation of a first fault signal from the fault-monitoring device after placing the electronic system into a first fault condition, inputting the first fault signal to the second fault-monitoring device, and

in response to an output from a final fault-monitoring device storing a record to this effect in non-volatile memory.

13. (**Previously Presented**) A self-test method according to claim 12 further comprising, on subsequent reversion of the electronic system to a non-fault condition,
checking whether the non-volatile memory includes a record and when the non-volatile memory does not include a record on subsequent reversion, generating an alarm signal.

14. (**Currently Amended**) A self-test method according to claim 10 further comprising outputting a fault signal from the first fault-monitoring device ~~system~~ when the electronic system is placed into a switched-off condition.

15. (**Currently Amended**) A self-test method according to claim 14 wherein the first fault-monitoring device ~~system~~ is a watch-dog system.

16. (**Previously Presented**) A self-test method according to claim 14 wherein the electronic system is associated with a vehicle and the electronic system is placed into a switched-off condition by turning an ignition key.

17. (**Currently Amended**) An electronic system according to claim 14 wherein a second fault-monitoring device ~~system~~ has as an input the fault signal from the first fault-monitoring device ~~system~~, the second fault-monitoring system being adapted to output a fault signal when the electronic system experiences an under- or over-voltage condition.

18. (**Currently Amended**) A self-test method according to claim 10 further comprising storing a record of a fault signal output by any of the fault-monitoring devices ~~systems~~ to enable identification of a defective fault-monitoring device ~~system~~.

19 – 31. (**Cancelled**)

32. (**New**) An electronic system according to claim 1 further arranged to create a record of a fault from the output of the final fault-monitoring system, the absence of a record being created signifying a fault in a fault-monitoring device ~~system~~.